

**City of Westwood Hills
City Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2024
Meeting #898**

The Westwood Hills City Council meeting was held on July 8, 2024, in the Community Room at Westwood City Hall.

A regular session of the city council was called to order in due form by Mayor Rosemary Podrebarac at 7:07 p.m.

Present: Mayor Podrebarac, Adam England, Dave Schmitz, Karen Sexton, John Weedman, and Beth O'Bryan. City Attorney Jim Orr and City Treasurer John Martin were present. Chief Curtis Mansell, City Administrator Leslie Herring, and Public Works Director John Sullivan from the City of Westwood were present.

Citizens Alison Troutwine, Jim and Jayne Nash, Steve Platt, Rachel, Abel, and Ainsley England, Mike Coffman, Trevor and Jessie Hansen, Natalie Buchanan, Carly and John Elliott, Elizabeth Newkirk, Randy Markway, Michael and Claire Elson, Paul and Jacqui Mueller, Mindy McEwen and Mark Vranicar were in attendance.

Sexton asked to amend the agenda to add item 11d - removal/treatment of the Creeping Charlie on The Green. Motion by Schmitz to approve the agenda with the requested amendment. Second by Weedman. England abstained. All others aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Sexton to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by England. All aye. Motion approved.

Reimagine Rainbow Presentation by Westwood City Administrator Leslie Herring. Many citizens spoke about the current Rainbow Boulevard and the proposed changes to the roadway, with almost all remarks being in favor of the recommendations contained in the Reimagine Rainbow report. The sense of the city council is to proceed with finding funding for the project.

Old Business

Tree Trimming near Streetlights

There are trees around four of the nine streetlights that need to be trimmed. John Weedman will proceed with obtaining estimates.

Boulder at 50th & Rainbow

City Attorney Orr expressed liability concerns with the size and weight of the proposed boulder and the possible safety hazard involved with locating such a large boulder within the City ROW. It was recommended to work with Public Works Director John Sullivan to search for other options.

New Business:

CDBG HOME Cooperation Agreement Amendment #2

The CDBG Cooperation Agreement between the City and Johnson County for Fiscal Years 2004-2006 contained a provision that both the County and City agreed “to adopt any amendment(s) to the Agreement incorporating changes that are necessary to meet HUD requirements for cooperation agreements set forth in any future Urban County Qualification Notice(s) that apply to a subsequent three-year urban county qualification period”.

The County must incorporate additional language to provisions V (B) and VII in the Cooperation Agreement detailing specific instructions for the process to follow if the City or County wish to terminate the agreement requiring that the “terminating party shall send a copy of the notice of termination to the HUD field office by the date specified in HUD’s Urban County Qualification Notice.” The County must also add references to the implementing Code of Federal Regulations citations, as well incorporate the following: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1974, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

Signing the amendment means the City of Westwood Hills cannot directly apply to the Federal Government for home funds.

England moved to approve Amendment #2 to the CDBG HOME Cooperation Agreement, and Schmitt seconded. All aye. Motion carried.

Environmental Fair Contribution

Councilwoman Sexton asked the council to consider a \$100.00 contribution to the fair to be held on September 14, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **Sexton moved and Schmitz seconded to encumber \$100.00 to contribute to the Fair.**

All aye. Motion carried. The funds will come out of the miscellaneous line item 8062.

2025 Budget Discussion

The City’s revenue neutral rate is 21.726 mills. The mill was 23.153 last year.

Weedman moved to remain revenue neutral for 2025. Schmitz seconded. All aye.

The 2025 budget hearing will be set for August 12, 2024.

Creeping Charlie on The Green

Sexton requested \$175.00 to pay Rosehill to eradicate the Creeping Charlie on The Green. **Sexton moved and Schmitz seconded to encumber \$175.00 to treat and eliminate the Creeping Charlie on The Green. All aye. Motion passed.**

Informational items – no action to be taken

There were no items from Citizens in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.